

Serial No. : 10/036,776
Filed : December 29, 2001

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-3 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the prior art described in the instant application. In the Office Action, it is stated that Claims 2 and 3 are objected but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The examiner stated that Claims 4-10 are allowed.

Accordingly, the applicant has amended Claim 1 to include all of the limitations of Claim 2. Claim 3 has been amended to be dependent upon Claim 1. Claim 2 has been canceled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that Claims 1 and 3-10 are in condition for allowance, and accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: 3/2/05

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